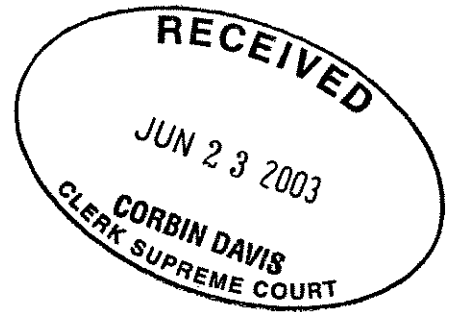


17460 Sharon Rd.
Chesaning, MI 48616

June 19, 2003

Michigan Supreme Court
Clerk of the Court
PO Box 30052
Lansing, MI 48909



Dear Justices:

I am writing to comment on a current State law that has unfairly caused my son, Scott Johnston, to have to pay back child support for his son from his birth date of October 28, 2001 to September 11, 2002.

The law states that when a child is conceived during a marriage, the State views that child's biological father as the husband of the woman who gave it birth.

Scott Johnston impregnated a married woman, who was in the process of a divorce from her husband. Within two months of the birth of the child, Mr. Johnston voluntarily took a DNA test proving he was the biological father of the baby, not the woman's ex-husband. Mr. Johnston spent the first 11 months of the child's life trying to be a father, but was rarely allowed to even see his baby because the mother, who divorced finally in February 2002, left her ex-husband's name on the child's birth certificate. Legally she did not have to let the baby's real biological father have any visitation because of the antiquated law. Mr. Johnston tried for several months and finally on September 11, 2002 the Court granted him legal visitation and to pay child support. They also tacked on the back child support for November 2001, December 2001, and the first eight months of 2002 – all months he had no rights to even see his child. The state made him pay for the support, but gave him no visitation when he wanted it desperately.

Due to the technological advances and accuracy of DNA it seems this law is not only outdated and absurd, it is also unfair to the biological father and to the child as he is erroneously considered to legally be the child of a man whom he is, in fact, not. This can be and should be easily cleared up and the truth be known by the results of a simple DNA test.

Please consider my comments when you are considering child support revisions.

Thank you from the frustrated mother and grandmother,

Tracy Johnston
Tracy Johnston

2003-22